

**Amendment and Response**

Applicant: Bradley J. Anderson

Serial No.: 09/938.981

Filed: Aug. 24, 2001

Docket No.: 10006905-1

Title: DUAL SCANNER SYSTEM AND METHOD

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claim 9 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 3-5, 7, 8, 10-14, 23-27, 29, 30, and 32 as follows:

- 5-5 B1 >  
Q1
1. (~~Currently Amended~~) A system for scanning a medium, the system comprising:  
a first scanner adapted to scan a first side of the medium and detect one of a presence and an absence of a first image on the first side of the medium; and  
a second scanner adapted to scan a second side of the medium and detect one of a presence and an absence of a second image on the second side of the medium,  
wherein the first scanner is adapted to generate a first side data signal based on the one of the presence and the absence of the first image on the first side of the medium, and the second scanner is adapted to generate a second side data signal based on the one of the presence and the absence of the second image on the second side of the medium.
  2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the first scanner and the second scanner are adapted to substantially simultaneously scan the first side of the medium and the second side of the medium.
  3. (~~Currently Amended~~) The system of claim 1, wherein, if the first scanner detects the presence of the first image and the second scanner detects the absence of the second image, ~~the first scanner is adapted to generate a first image signal and the second scanner is adapted to generate a blank signal~~ the first side data signal includes an image presence signal and the second side data signal includes an image absence signal.
  4. (~~Currently Amended~~) The system of claim 1, wherein, if the first scanner detects the absence of the first image and the second scanner detects the absence of the second image, ~~the first scanner is adapted to generate a first blank signal and the second scanner is adapted to generate a second blank signal~~ the first side data signal includes a first image absence signal and the second side data signal includes a second image absence signal.

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5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein, if the first scanner detects the presence of the first image and the second scanner detects the presence of the second image, ~~the first scanner is adapted to generate a first image signal and the second scanner is adapted to generate a second image signal~~ the first side data signal includes a first image presence signal and the second side data signal includes a second image presence signal.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising:  
an automatic document feeder adapted to receive the medium and position the medium between the first scanner and the second scanner.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of scanning a medium, the method comprising the steps of:  
scanning a first side of the medium, including detecting one of a presence and an absence of a first image on the first side of the medium; and  
generating a first side data signal based on the one of the presence and the absence of the first image;  
scanning a second side of the medium, including detecting one of a presence and an absence of a second image on the second side of the medium; and  
generating a second side data signal based on the one of the presence and the absence of the second image.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the steps of scanning the first side of the medium and scanning the second side of the medium occur substantially simultaneously.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein, if the step of scanning the first side of the medium includes detecting the presence of the first image and the step of scanning the second side of the medium includes detecting the absence of the second image, ~~the step of generating the first side data signal includes generating a first image signal and~~

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~~image presence signal and the step of generating the second side data signal includes generating a blank signal an image absence signal.~~

Q1 11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein, if the step of scanning the first side of the medium includes detecting the absence of the first image and the step of scanning the second side of the medium includes detecting the absence of the second image, the step of generating the first side data signal includes generating a first blank signal a first image absence signal and the step of generating the second side data signal includes generating a second blank signal a second image absence signal.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein, if the step of scanning the first side of the medium includes detecting the presence of the first image and the step of scanning the second side of the medium includes detecting the presence of the second image, the step of generating the first side data signal includes generating a first image signal a first image presence signal and the step of generating the second side data signal includes generating a second image signal a second image presence signal.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of scanning the first side of the medium includes scanning the first side of the medium with a first scanner, and wherein the step of scanning the second side of the medium includes scanning the second side of the medium with a second scanner, and further comprising the step of:  
positioning the medium between the first scanner and the second scanner.

14. (Currently Amended) A system for reproducing an image disposed on at least one of a first side and a second side of a medium, the system comprising:  
a first scanner adapted to scan the first side of the medium and generate a first side data signal;  
a second scanner adapted to scan the second side of the medium and generate a second side data signal; and

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a controller adapted to receive the first side data signal and the second side data signal and generate an image reproduction data signal based on the first side data signal and the second side data signal,

wherein, if the image is disposed only on the first side of the medium and the second side of the medium is blank, the first side data signal includes a first image signal and the second side data signal includes a blank signal, wherein the image reproduction data signal includes the first image signal and the blank signal.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the first scanner and the second scanner are adapted to substantially simultaneously scan the first side of the medium and the second side of the medium.

16. (Original) The system of claim 14, further comprising:

a reproduction unit adapted to receive the image reproduction data signal and reproduce the image based on the image reproduction data signal, wherein the reproduction unit is adapted to reproduce the image based on the first image signal and, in response to the blank signal, discontinue reproduction of the image.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the reproduction unit is adapted to print the image on a first side of a print medium based on the first image signal and, in response to the blank signal, eject the print medium.

18. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the reproduction unit is adapted to display the image based on the first image signal and, in response to the blank signal, prevent display of a blank image.

19. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein, if the image is disposed on both the first side and the second side of the medium, the first side data signal includes the first image signal and the second side data signal includes a second image signal, wherein the image reproduction data signal includes the first image signal and the second image signal, and

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wherein the reproduction unit is adapted to reproduce the image based on the first image signal and the second image signal.

20. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein, if the first side and the second side of the medium are both blank, the first side data signal includes a first blank signal and the second side data signal includes a second blank signal, wherein the image reproduction data signal includes the first blank signal and the second blank signal, and wherein, in response to the first blank signal and the second blank signal, the reproduction unit is adapted to discontinue reproduction of the image.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein, in response to the first blank signal and the second blank signal, the reproduction unit is adapted to eject a blank print medium.

22. (Original) The system of claim 14, further comprising:  
an automatic document feeder adapted to receive the medium and position the medium between the first scanner and the second scanner.

23. (Currently Amended) A method of reproducing an image disposed on at least one of a first side and a second side of a medium, the method comprising the steps of:  
scanning the first side of the medium, including generating a first side data signal;  
scanning the second side of the medium, including generating a second side data signal; and

generating an image reproduction data signal based on the first side data signal and the second side data signal,

wherein, if the image is disposed on the first side of the medium and the second side of the medium is blank, generating the first side data signal includes generating a first image signal and generating the second side data signal includes generating a blank signal, wherein generating the image reproduction data signal includes including the first image signal and the blank signal.

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24. ~~(Currently Amended)~~ The method of claim 23, wherein ~~the steps of~~ scanning the first side of the medium and scanning the second side of the medium occur substantially simultaneously.

25. ~~(Currently Amended)~~ The method of claim 23, further comprising ~~the step of~~: reproducing the image based on the image reproduction data signal, including reproducing the image based on the first image signal and, in response to the blank signal, discontinuing ~~the step of~~ reproducing the image after reproducing the image based on the first image signal.

26. ~~(Currently Amended)~~ The method of claim 25, wherein reproducing the image based on the first image signal includes printing the image on a first side of a print medium, and wherein discontinuing ~~the step of~~ reproducing the image includes ejecting the print medium after printing the image on the first side of the print medium.

27. ~~(Currently Amended)~~ The method of claim 25, wherein reproducing the image based on the first image signal includes displaying the image, and wherein discontinuing ~~the step of~~ reproducing the image includes preventing display of a blank image.

28. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein, if the image is disposed on both the first side and the second side of the medium, generating the first side data signal includes generating the first image signal and generating the second side data signal includes generating a second image signal, wherein generating the image reproduction data signal includes including the first image signal and the second image signal.

29. ~~(Currently Amended)~~ The method of claim 28, further comprising ~~the step of~~: reproducing the image based on the image reproduction data signal, including reproducing the image based on the first image signal and the second image signal.

30. ~~(Currently Amended)~~ The method of claim 23, wherein ~~the step of~~ scanning the first side of the medium includes scanning the first side of the medium with a first scanner, and

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wherein ~~the step of scanning the second side of the medium includes scanning the second side of the medium with a second scanner, and further comprising the step of:~~  
positioning the medium between the first scanner and the second scanner.

Q. 31. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein if the first side and the second side of the medium are both blank, generating the first side data signal includes generating a first blank signal and generating the second side data signal includes generating a second blank signal, wherein generating the image reproduction data signal includes including the first blank signal and the second blank signal.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, further comprising ~~the step of:~~  
reproducing the image based on the image reproduction data signal, including, in response to the first blank signal and the second blank signal, discontinuing ~~the step of~~  
reproducing the image.